

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 EA-06 ISO-00 EB-07 AID-05 CEA-01 CIAE-00

COME-00 FRB-03 INR-07 IO-10 NEA-09 NSAE-00 OPIC-03

SP-02 TRSE-00 CIEP-01 LAB-04 SIL-01 OMB-01 ERDA-05

DODE-00 FEAE-00 FPC-01 H-02 INT-05 L-02 NSC-05 PM-03

SAM-01 OES-03 SS-15 STR-04 PRS-01 PA-01 USIA-06 CEQ-01

EPA-01 NSF-01 /130 W

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R 301714Z APR 75

FM USMISSION OECD PARIS

TO SECSTATE WASH DC 6839

INFO AMEMBASSY ANKARA

AMEMBASSY ATHENS

AMEMBASSY BERN

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY DUBLIN

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

AMEMBASSY HELSINKI

AMEMBASSY LISBON

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG

AMEMBASSY MADRID

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AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY REYKJAVIK

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ENRG, OECD

SUBJECT: COMMITTEE FOR ENERGY POLICY AND LTEA FOLLOW-UP

REF: A. OECD PARIS 10389

B. OECD PARIS 7871

1. SUMMARY. COUNCIL APRIL 29 APPROVED (TURKEY AND SWITZERLAND AD REFERENDUM) ESTABLISHMENT OF COMMITTEE FOR ENERGY POLICY (CEP) AND PROGRAM FOR FOLLOW-UP TO LONG TERM ENERGY ASSESSMENT (LTEA). HIGH-LEVEL GROUP (HLG) CONTINUES, ON PROVISIONAL BASIS, PENDING CEP DECISION ON SUB-BODIES. QUESTION WILL ARISE ALSO IN CONSIDERATION OF 1976 PROGRAM OF WORK. END SUMMARY.

2. SECRETARIAT PROPOSED ADOPTION OF DRAFT ENTRY AND RESOLUTION ON CEP CONTAINED IN C(75)14 (CORRIGENDUM 1) WITH AMENDMENTS ESSENTIALLY AS INDICATED REF A EXCEPT THAT (A) SECRETARIAT DID NOT PROPOSE DELETION OF REFERENCE TO ESTABLISHMENT OF HLG (US DEL HAD FAVORED RETENTION IN DISCUSSIONS WITH SECRETARIAT PRIOR TO COUNCIL MEETING), AND (B) SECRETARIAT PROPOSED ELIMINATION OF REFERENCE IN PARA 2 OF DECISION TO "ALL ASPECTS OF ENERGY POLICY" SO CEP COMPETENCE NOW DESCRIBED AS EXTENDING ONLY TO "ALL ENERGY RESOURCES."

3. DEBATE OPENED WITH FRENCH PLEA FOR PROMPT REACTIVATION OF COOPERATION ON ENERGY MATTERS ON OECD-WIDE BASIS. FOLLOWING INTERVENTIONS WERE LIMITED GENERALLY TO DELEGATIONS (TURKEY, GREECE, SPAIN, AUSTRIA, SWITZERLAND AND SWEDEN) THAT EXPRESSED SOME DEGREE OF OPPOSITION TO CONTINUATION OF RESTRICTED HLG. SEVERAL URGED THAT SECRETARIAT PROMPTLY SUBMIT PROPOSED REVISED MANDATE FOR CEP, STRESSED PROVISIONAL NATURE OF HLG'S CONTINUED EXISTENCE AND MADE CLEAR THEY WOULD OPPOSE CONTINUATION OF HLG IN CEP FOLLOWING ADOPTION OF REVISED CEP MANDATE.

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4. ALL, HOWEVER, EVENTUALLY ACCEPTED PROPOSED DECISION WITH SECRETARIAT AMENDMENTS. TURKISH AD REFERENDUM WAS BASED ON LINGERING DOUBT (SHARED BY GREEK DEL) AS TO LEGAL BASIS FOR PRESENT EXISTENCE OF HLG. IN PREVIOUS COUNCIL DISCUSSION TURKISH DEL HAD QUESTIONED WHETHER HLG EXISTENCE HAD BEEN RECONFIRMED ANNUALLY BY EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE AS REQUIRED BY RULES OF PROCEDURE. SECRETARIAT

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EXPLAINED THAT RECONFIRMATION OF HLG, AS OTHER WORKING PARTIES, WAS IMPLICIT IN ADOPTION OF WORK PROGRAM. GREEK DEL ACCEPTED THIS SECRETARIAT EXPLANATION BUT ADDED THAT QUESTION WILL HAVE TO BE EXAMINED CAREFULLY WHEN EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE AND COUNCIL CONSIDER PROGRAM FOR 1976. TURKS AGREED TO RESOLVE THEIR DOUBTS IF POSSIBLE IN DISCUSSIONS WITH SECRETARIAT LEGAL STAFF.

5. SWISS DEL CITED DOUBTS AS TO NEED FOR CONTINUATION OF HLG IN LIGHT OF CREATION OF IEA AS REASON FOR HIS AD REFERENDUM.

6. AUSTRALIA REPEATED EARLIER STATEMENT THAT AUSTRALIAN MINISTER FOR MINERALS AND ENERGY DOES NOT BELIEVE OECD COOPERATION ON ENERGY IS NECESSARY AND AUSTRALIA WILL THEREFORE NOT ATTEND CEP.

7. COUNCIL ACCEPTED PROPOSED DRAFT ENTRY ON LTEA FOLLOW-UP (C(74)259, CORRIGENDUM 1) WITH AMENDMENTS TO PARA (A) (TO DESCRIBE POLICY CONCLUSIONS OF LTEA AS "BASIS FOR CONSIDERATION BY MEMBER GOVERNMENTS" INSTEAD OF "BASIS FOR FURTHER WORK"), (G) (TO REMOVE REFERENCE TO A COMPLEMENTARY REPORT ON ENVIRONMENT AND ENERGY) AND (I) (TO DELETE DESCRIPTION OF NEW ENERGY R AND D PROPOSALS AS "A MATTER OF URGENCY"). AUSTRALIA ABSTAINED ON PARAS (A) AND (B) TO INDICATE DISAGREEMENT WITH MAIN POLICY CONCLUSIONS OF LTEA AND INTENTION NOT TO PARTICIPATE IN CEP.

8. COMMENT: DESPITE MUCH ADVERSE CRITICISM OF HLG, CEP WILL BE ABLE TO ELIMINATE IT ONLY BY UNANIMOUS CONCURRENCE. REAL THREAT TO HLG MAY BE IN CONSIDERATION OF 1976 PROGRAM BY EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE AND COUNCIL. IN ANY CASE, ACTIVATION OF EITHER CEP OR HLG WILL DEPEND ON SECRETARY GENERAL AND ON RESPONSES OF MEMBER GOVERN-
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MENTS. WE HAVE REPEATEDLY TOLD SECRETARIAT THAT WE DO
NOT FEEL THAT EITHER BODY NEEDS TO MEET IN NEAR FUTURE,
BUT IT IS CLEAR FRENCH GOVERNMENT WILL PRESS FOR EARLY
ACTIVATION AT LEAST OF CEP.
TURNER

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